



PATENT

Attorney Docket: **2850(203-3277)**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Cunningham et al.

Examiner: Not Assigned

Serial No.: 10/⁶¹⁸168,990

Group: Art Unit

Filed: July 14, 2003

Dated: November 18, 2003

For: **SURGICAL COBRA HEAD SUTURE NEEDLE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

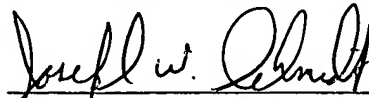
Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the listed items are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on November 18, 2003

Dated: November 18, 2003



Joseph W. Schmidt

The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

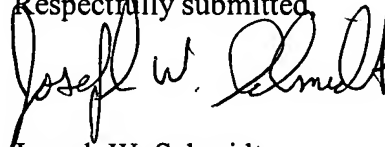
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor. **TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph W. Schmidt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" and last name "Schmidt" being clearly legible.

Joseph W. Schmidt

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Form PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
2850 (203-3277)SERIAL NO.
10/618,990INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTAPPLICANTS
Cunningham et al.FILING DATE
7/14/03GROUP ART UNIT
Unassigned

(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	722,105	3/3/1903	Hervey			
	1,599,059	9/7/1926	Morton			
	2,838,049	6/10/1958	Eisenhofer			
	2,841,150	7/1/1958	Riall			
	3,038,475	6/12/1962	Orcutt			
	3,238,942	3/8/1966	Lincoff			
	4,527,564	7/9/1985	Eguchi et al.			
	4,799,484	1/24/1989	Smith et al.			
	4,932,961	6/12/1990	Wong et al.			
	5,002,564	3/26/1991	McGregor			
	5,002,565	3/26/1991	McGregor			
	5,030,228	7/9/1991	Wong et al.			
	5,100,431	3/31/1992	Buster et al.			
	5,178,628	1/12/2003	Otsuka et al.			
	5,330,441	7/19/1994	Prasad et al.			
	5,403,344	4/4/1995	Allen			
	5,730,732	3/24/1998	Sardelis et al.			
	5,762,811	6/9/1998	Munoz			
	5,797,961	8/25/1998	Smith et al.			
	5,693,454	12/2/1997	Munoz			
	5,776,268	7/7/1998	McJames et al.			
	6,322,581	11/27/2001	Fukuda et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.